

EXPANDED
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 18, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW Room 844
Washington DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the superintendent of a rural school district in North Dakota with a total student population of approximately 620 students K-12. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

The Harvey School District would use "e-rate" discounts in a variety of ways. Our first priority is to set up a fully multi-media, Internet connected lab at our elementary school with computers, at least one, in each classroom. E-rate discounts would allow us to use resources to purchase equipment such as routers and computers, purchase appropriate software and provide training for our staff to make effective use of the equipment and technology to make teaching and learning more effective. We would also use resources to convert our traditional libraries into fully functioning and "connected" media centers making information fully accessible to our students.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Marthaller, Superintendent
Harvey School District #38



WILLIAM F. PETTUS
Superintendent of Schools

MARIPOSA COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 8 Mariposa, California 95338 ■ (209) 742-0250 FAX (209) 966-4549

April 17, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket NO. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am a locally elected school board member from the Mariposa County Unified School District in California. Our district covers 1,455 square miles and has thirteen schools. Rural schools like ours have few dollars and no corporate support. Our businesses are Mom and Pop in ownership and we have no industry other than tourism. Our students have little or no access to libraries. We need your support of the E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan is the only way my students will have access to the internet and the ability to keep up with inner-city and urban students.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately needed by all students and overdue in rural areas. I beseech you to fully support the Joint Boards recommendations for our kids.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bob Bartholomew".

Bob Bartholomew
Board of Trustees and Education



EXTRAORDINARY FILED

HOLTON-ARMS SCHOOL

April 15, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am Diana Coulton Beebe, Head of The Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Maryland, and I would like to thank you for your dedication to ensuring that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connects for discounts is vital, as is your inclusion of Internet Service Provider costs. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Students at Holton-Arms are set to use the Internet in classrooms, labs and our school libraries. They need discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries all over this country.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diana Coulton Beebe
Head of School



**The
Calhoun
School**

A Century
of Excellence
1896-1996

Elementary, Middle
and Upper Schools
433 West End Avenue
New York, NY 10024
Tel 212 877-1700
Fax 212 877-2450

Lower School
160 West 74th Street
New York, NY 10023
Tel 212 721-0990
Fax 212 721-2012

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

14 April 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Technology Coordinator of the Calhoun School, and I would like to thank you for your work with the Federal Communications Commission. I am concerned, however, that the Telecommunications Act may not continue to include the proposed education rate, which would provide affordable access to the Internet and the World Wide Web for all schools and libraries.

Today's technology can provide rich resources for students. Unfortunately, it can also serve to widen the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots." It is imperative that we, as educators and policy makers, do not further contribute to this bifurcation. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The discount will address the needs of all schools, and the inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

Our students - those at Calhoun, and at schools throughout New York City - need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Reiner
Technology Coordinator
The Calhoun School

Spring Hill

Unified School District #230



EX-100-100 Board of Education Office
101 E. South Street, Spring Hill, KS 66083
phone: 913/592-7205 fax: 913/592-7270
e-mail address: ksshdo@unicom.net

Dr. Barton L. Goering, Superintendent
Dr. Dan Lumley, Assistant Superintendent
Myrna Morrison, Business Manager/Treasurer
Karen Meireis, Clerk of the Board

April 4, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
191 M. Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am the school board president for Spring Hill Unified School District No. 230 in Spring Hill, Kansas. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our district has been using grant funds to equip classrooms and labs with up-to-date computer equipment. Now we need help to allow our students to learn and communicate globally.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Katie Fisher

Mrs. Katie Fisher
Board President

Board of Education

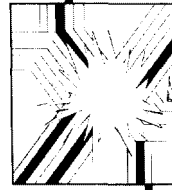
Katie Fisher, President • Carmen Ellis, Vice President
Craig Drummond, Member • Frank Healy, Member • William Meek, Member • Bob Metcalf, Member

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MAY 1 - 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

THE • CENTER • FOR
ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGIES



EXHIBIT/FILED

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MAY 1 - 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am an instructional designer from the Center for Advanced Technologies, Altoona, Pennsylvania, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Center for Advanced Technologies, a nationally recognized technology education center, will then be better able to ensure that all of the classrooms through our district will be affordably connected to the Internet. It is important for our educators in Altoona to prepare our students to exit school with the technology skills they will need to survive in the workplace. It is vitally important for the economic development of our "rust belt" region to encourage the settlement of new business's in Altoona. This can only be accomplished with a technology enriched local workforce. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee our regions growth.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Huey O'Brien
Instructional Designer



Rushford-Peterson Public Schools

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 239 • BOX 627 RUSHFORD, MINNESOTA 55971 • FAX 507-864-2085

DAVID U'REN
Superintendent
507-864-7785

BRAD JOHNSON
High School Principal/Activities Director
507-864-7786

MARY L. ALLEN
Middle School Principal
507-875-2238

BRUCE BLIXT
Elementary Principal
507-864-7787

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner:

I am the superintendent from the Rushford-Peterson School District #239 and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

At Rushford-Peterson Schools, we are working with buildings that were built in the teens of this century, the thirties, the fifties, sixties and seventies. Even our newest building is not wired for electronic communications or even adequately for electricity for that matter. To bring the advantages of the Internet to our students, we must first spend a great deal of our resources on the infrastructure. What capital remains for the connection to a WAN and the internet fees is precious little.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

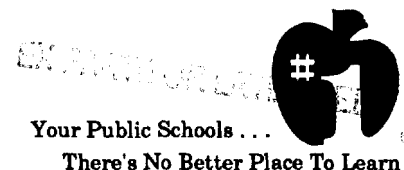
Thank you!

Educationally yours,

David U'Ren
Superintendent of Schools
Rushford-Peterson School District #239

San Bernardino City Unified School District

E. Neal Roberts, Ed.D., Superintendent



April 11, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

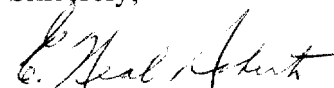
I am the Superintendent of the San Bernardino City Unified School District, located in Southern California. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

Our District is the 10th largest in California and is characterized as a large urban district with over 70% of our students participating in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch program. Almost 25% of our students are English Language Learners. As you can see from this brief sketch of the District, our students must have needed exposure to a world of information beyond their city. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to our District.

This plan would provide our District the needed funding opportunity to put in place an infrastructure (classroom and school wiring) to allow for connectivity to the Internet and additional distance-learning opportunities.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. Thank you for your support to the resources of our future.

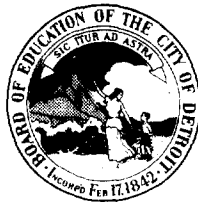
Sincerely,


E. NEAL ROBERTS
Superintendent



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

777 N. F Street • San Bernardino, CA 92410 • (909) 381-1240



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

DETROIT BOARD OF EDUCATION

5057 WOODWARD AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48202

HONORABLE IRMA CLARK
President
Member, Voting District 3

(313) 494-1270
Fax (313) 494-1378

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MAY 11 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 5, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

As president of the Detroit Board of Education, I want to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Detroit Public Schools is involved in a 15-year capital improvement project that will transform our 263 schools into institutions designed for 21st Century learning. If we are to successfully create that environment, we will need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Irma Clark, President
Detroit Board of Education

Merced

City School District

444 West 23rd St., Merced, CA 95340

Phone (209) 385-6600
FAX (209) 385-6393

EX-1175 OR LATE FILED



Superintendent: Donald V. De Long, Ed. D.

Board of Education: Maureen Bultena, President, Paul de Ayora, Clerk, Karen Cole, Sue Fletcher, Leo Hernandez

Diversity our strength
Children our promise

April 11, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 - 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the superintendent of Merced City School District, and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

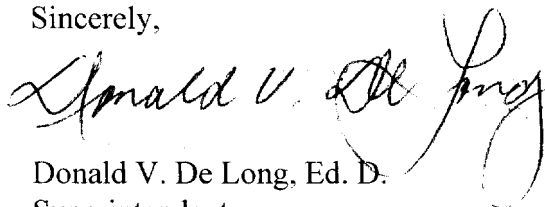
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Merced City School District will use the discounts to further implement our Technology Plan: including networking eleven more sites, purchasing equipment for these sites and providing training for our classroom teachers.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Donald V. De Long, Ed. D.
Superintendent



EXHIBIT FOR FILED

MOIR & HARDMAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BRIAN R. MOIR

2000 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 512

FAX: 202-331-9854

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-4361 **DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**

DIRECT DIAL: (202) 331-9852

April 16, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
(Office of General Counsel)

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. -- Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Ex Parte Submission in CC Docket No. 96-45 and 96-262

Dear Commissioner Chong:

Enclosed please find an outline of a proposed resolution to the universal service and access fees issues currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This proposal has been developed as a consensus approach by the major groups which represent the interests of residential and business telephone consumers groups¹.

This approach is markedly different than others which have been presented to the Commission in that it truly reforms access charges and fully funds universal service without raising current end user fees or creating new charges that are shifted, directly or indirectly, onto the backs of residential and business telephone customers.

These documents are being released today and we wanted you to have a chance to begin to assess the merits of this consumer/business consensus proposal. Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions about our proposal. We hope that it will be taken under serious consideration as you work on these important issues.

Sincerely,



Brian R. Moir, Esq.
Counsel to the International Communications Association

¹American Petroleum Institute, Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, International Communications Association, Michigan Consumer Federation, and National Retail Federation



April 23, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Board of Trustees
Shauna Lyn Briggs
Al Christenson
Austin Linsley
Judy Rosen
Margi Wray

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Murrieta Valley Unified School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the county, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classroom, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Al Christenson
President
Board of Education

AC/nc

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	4-24-97	# of pages	1
To	R. B. Chong	From	Al Christenson		
Co./Dept.	FCC	Co.	MVUSD		
Phone #	202-418-2200	Phone #	909-696-1601		
Fax #	202-418-2820	Fax #	909-696-1640		



Contra Costa County Board of Education
Contra Costa County Office of Education

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 1997

77 Santa Barbara Road • Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 • (510) 942-3280

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 24, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	4/24/97	# of pages	1
To	HON. R. CHONG		From	PAMELA MIRABELLA	
Co./Dept.	FCC		Co.	C.C.C. OFFICE OF ED.	
Phone #	202/418-2200		Phone #	510/942-7280	
Fax #	202/418-2820		Fax #	510/472-0875	

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regard to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from the Contra Costa County Office of Education, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and, more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is disparately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Pamela Mirabella

Pamela Mirabella, President
Contra Costa County Board of Education

PM:ldh

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, D. C. 20554

EX-107-107-107-107

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

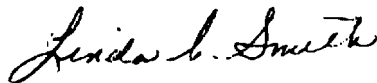
I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program. I am an employee of the Lassen County Office of Education and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, D. C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

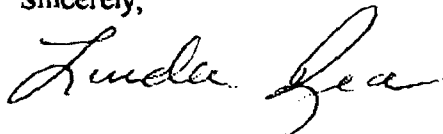
I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program. I am an employee of the Lassen County Office of Education and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



EX-107-2518-123

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, D. C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program. I am an employee of the Lassen County Office of Education and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Gwen Pacheco

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, D. C. 20554

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

James Hall



Bozeman Public Schools

404 West Main, PO Box 520
Bozeman, MT 59771-0520
Voice: (406)585-1500
Fax: (406)585-1504

Steven D. Johnson
Assistant Superintendent
Business and Operations
Extension 1508

Suzanne Becker
Accounting
Extension 1506

Connie Campbell
Transportation
Extension 1508

Christine Day
Information Systems
Extension 1560

Gary J. Griffith
Maintenance Supervisor
Extension 1540

Sara G. Walker
Payroll and Benefits
Extension 1507

Robert Burrows
Support Services Supervisor
Support Services Building
501 North 11th
(406) 585-1675
Extension 1562

April 23, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

SUBJECT: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Media/Technology Supervisor of Bozeman Public Schools and was fortunate enough to attend the EDLINC meeting on the Telecommunications act of 1996 in Washington, D.C. on February 24, 1997. It is comforting to know that the FCC recognizes the need for technology in the classrooms to prepare our students to be the workforce of tomorrow.

We are fortunate to have direct internet access to all eleven of our schools. Our community, administrators and school board recognize the importance of technology and long distance learning. Within five years we plan to have all of our classrooms networked. Internal cabling has been very expensive so far. We have received some volunteer labor, but the majority of the interior cabling is contracted out at great expense. The inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is essential in the implementation of the Telecommunications ACT of 1996 for schools and libraries.

We have voice mail and e-mail available to all of our teachers for better communication in the district and the community. We also have home pages for our district and each of our schools. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision to ensure this access at a discounted rate for all schools is a necessity, especially in low population states such as Montana.

The \$2.25 billion a year will enable more classrooms to get connected, bringing unlimited resources to students. We are currently spending \$64,938 per year for our telephone and data communication leased lines. With the addition of E-rate discounts, we will be able to use the savings for technology training and classroom equipment. It is also imperative to have cable TV and satellite services to be included in the discount.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Day
Media/Technology Supervisor
Bozeman School District #7

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary



Washington Colony School District

130 East Lincoln Avenue • Fresno, California 93706
209/ 233-0706 • FAX 209/ 233-9583

April 18, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Washington Colony Elementary School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640**

**Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786**

**Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager**

**Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools**

April 17, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong: :

I am a Board Member from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

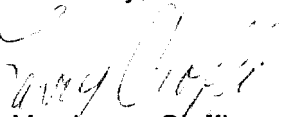
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Larry Cloffi
Board Member

NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a Board Member from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

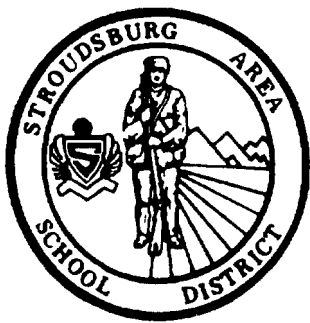
Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Frank Bonfield
Board Member



STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

123 Linden Street
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18360

Telephone 717-421-1996 DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 18, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Economy

Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am a Director of Technology from the Stroudsburg Area School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have a affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

One of the goals of our long range technology plan is to provide students with access to the global community. Discounts provided by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 will lessen the financial burden on school districts in providing this most important communications medium.

On behalf of the Stroudsburg Area School District, I wish to thank you for your continued support in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Clark
Director of Technology

cc: Patricia Tancredi

EXPANDED OR LATE FILED



Petersburg Public School

P.O. Box 240
2nd and Widaman
Petersburg, NE 68652-0240

(402) 386-5302
FAX (402) 386-5464

'HOME OF THE PIRATES'

April 21, 1997

MAY 1 1997

ADMINISTRATION
Earl W. Fickenschier, Sup't.
Mary Thieman, Prin.

ADM. SECRETARY
Mildred Luettel

FACULTY MEMBERS
Elaine Beckman, 1 & 2
Stacey Bedlan, 3 & 4
Annette Borer, 5 & 6
Lisa Carder, H.E./Bus./Comp.
Harry Cunningham, Couns./S.S.
Carol Fischel, Science
Vivian Eucker, English, Drama
Chris Grundmayer, Soc. Stu.
Jeff Hofeldt, Math
Mike Kennedy, Bus./Comp./P.E.
Becky Kerkman, Elementary
Tom Meyer, Ind. Tech.
Bernice Milburn, K & 4
Patricia Naber, Media/H.E.
Michael Nickisch, Art
Gail Robinson, SPED
Kathy Seier, Title I
William Trenhaile, Music

SPED AIDE
Karon Paulson

SCHOOL BOARD
Dan Thieman, Pres.
Jerry Bode, V. Pres.
Lynne Henningsen, Sec.
Jodie Borer, Treas.
Loran Naber
Bob Kittelson

SEC. to PRIN.
Claudelle Thieman

MAINTENANCE
Jerry Thieman
Shirley Henn

GREEN THUMB
Jane Goetzinger
FOOD PREP

Fay Werner, Mgr.
Virginia Foss
Dorothy Claar
Jolene Daniels
Judy Benda

TITLE I DRIVER
Mary Zabka
COACH
Amy Evans

The Honorable Rachele B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong:

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

I am a teacher from the Petersburg Public School, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our school, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Carder

Lisa Carder, Technology Coordinator



DRAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL

500 NORTH MAIN

P.O. BOX 256

DRAKE, ND 58736

GEORGE WIELAND

Superintendent

MARVIN GOLEN

Principal

BOARD MEMBERS

CAROL SPEAR, Pres.

ROLAND BROMLEY, Vice Pres.

DOROTHY MARTWICK, Director

RYAN KRIEDEMANN, Director

BERNICE SMITH, Director

SHIRLEY NEUHARTH, Bus. Mgr.

PHONE (701)465-3732 FAX (701)465-3634

April 14, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am currently Superintendent of Drake Public School District, a district that is located in rural north central North Dakota. I would like to let you know that your efforts in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway is greatly appreciated. We thank you.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have affordable access to the Internet and be able to provide-learning opportunities in areas such as our area where they are desperately needed. I'm am confident that the \$2.25 billion per year will address the needs of all our schools, and most importantly, will bring services to classrooms where students learn. Your inclusion of internal class-connections for discounts is vital. In a rural area such as ours, this plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Drake School District is trying desperately to catch up with the richer urban districts, but with half of our students on free and reduced meals, we don't have the resources to do so. In fact, we continue to fall farther and farther behind. We need funds to take us beyond stand-alone computers, most of which are Apple 2e's. We don't have the resources to pay for wiring, servers, routers and the hookups that are needed to bring the advantages of the internet to students in our classrooms.

I urge you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you,

George Wieland
George Wieland
Superintendent

